County of San Diego New: July 13, 1990 Reviewed: Spring 2003

SHERIFF'S DETENTIONS CERTIFIED NURSE PRACTITIONER

DEFINITION:

Under general direction, to supervise nursing staff within a detention facility operated by the Sheriff; to perform professional nursing duties, and related work as assigned.

DISTINGUISHED CHARACTERISTICS:

This class differs from other professional nursing classifications in that the emphasis is to develop diagnostic impressions and give physical examination and other primary care services as defined by protocols in the Sheriff's Detentions Medical Service.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Performs screening and physical examinations to determine state of patient's health; identifies impressions of abnormal conditions and develops case management plans; prepares a comprehensive health history of patients, records findings or assessments, plans for care, follow-up examinations and subsequent evaluations; orders and interprets laboratory tests; consults and collaborates with physicians, nurses and other health professionals; counsels patients regarding treatment care; serves as consultant to other nursing and medical staff in area of specialization.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Thorough Knowledge of:

- Anatomy, physiology, microbiology, social science, psychology, nutrition and pharmacology.
- Normal growth and development.
- Norms in laboratory values to recognize conditions of clinical significance.
- Identification and management of health problems in a relevant specialized field.
- Clinical practices of nursing as applied in a correctional facility.
- Patient counseling and education.
- Knowledge of common illnesses and health problems.

General Knowledge of:

- Principles of epidemiology.
- Use of basic medical, laboratory and nursing equipment.
- Historical, social, and legal aspects of nursing.
- Medical ethics.
- Nurse Practitioner role in a clinical setting.
- Principles and practices of teaching and learning as applied to patients and staff.

Skills and Abilities:

- Provide physical and psychosocial assessment.
- Manage disease prevention and health care for inmates of correctional facilities.
- Communicate orally and in writing.

- Work in collaboration with physicians, nurses and other health professionals.
- Prepare educational material and train professional and para-professional staff.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:

Education, training and/or experience, which would demonstrate the application of knowledge, skills and abilities listed above. An example of qualifying education/experience is: at least two (2) years of professionals nursing experience; AND, Successful completion of a Nurse Practitioner training program as relevant to provision of health.

SPECIAL LICENSES, NOTES, OR REQUIREMENTS:

License/Certificates:

Valid Registered Nurse license and Nurse Practitioner certification issued by the State of California.

A valid California Class C driver's license is required at time of appointment or the ability to arrange transportation for field travel. Employees in this class may be required to use their own personal vehicle.

Note:

A current CPR card is required by the time of appointment.

Working Conditions:

May be subject to verbal and physical abuse from patients and contagious disease.

Character:

Must have a reputation for honesty and trustworthiness with no felony convictions. Convictions may be disqualifying depending on number, severity, and recency. Prior to appointment candidates offered employment in the Sheriff's Department facilities are subject to a background investigation that will include a polygraph examination.